

OPARURE SOUTH-WESTERN PIT, FAST-TRACK APPLICATION: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Prepared for
Graymont NZ Ltd

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INTRODUCTION

Project Background

Graymont is proposing to develop and operate a new limestone pit (SW Pit, or Project) adjacent to their existing quarry and plant at Oparure, near Te Kūiti in the Waitomo District (Project area) (Figure 1 and Figure 2). Graymont is seeking authorisation through the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA) to progress the development. The legal description of the SW Pit is part Lot 1 DPS 77130, Lot 2 DPS 33442 and Lot 1 DPS 74022.

The SW Pit will be developed in stages with the pit starting in the high point and moving south before coming back up to the SW Pit wall. A haul road will be constructed first to link the existing pit to the SW Pit and overburden placement will initially be in the existing pit, then backfilled into the SW Pit (see Figure 3 and Figure 4).

This archaeological assessment report was commissioned by Graymont and prepared as part of the required assessment of effects accompanying an application under the FTAA, which includes consideration of the heritage provisions of the District Plan, Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and to identify any requirements under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (HNZPTA). Recommendations are made in accordance with statutory requirements.

Methodology

The New Zealand Archaeological Association's (NZAA) site record database (ArchSite), Proposed Waitomo District Plan (Operative) schedules and the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (Heritage NZ) New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero were searched for information on sites recorded in the vicinity. Literature and archaeological reports relevant to the area were consulted (see Bibliography). Early survey plans and aerial photographs were checked for information relating to past use of the property.

A visual inspection of the wider property incorporating the Project area was conducted. The ground surface was examined for evidence of former occupation (in the form of shell midden, depressions, terracing or other unusual formations within the landscape, or indications of 19th century European settlement remains). Exposed and disturbed soils were examined where encountered for evidence of earlier modification, and an understanding of the local stratigraphy. Subsurface testing with a probe and spade was carried out to determine whether buried archaeological deposits could be identified or establish the nature of possible archaeological features. Particular attention was paid to the spur and ridge lines, caves and rock outcrops (topographical features where archaeological sites are often found to be located). Photographs were taken to record the topography and features of interest.

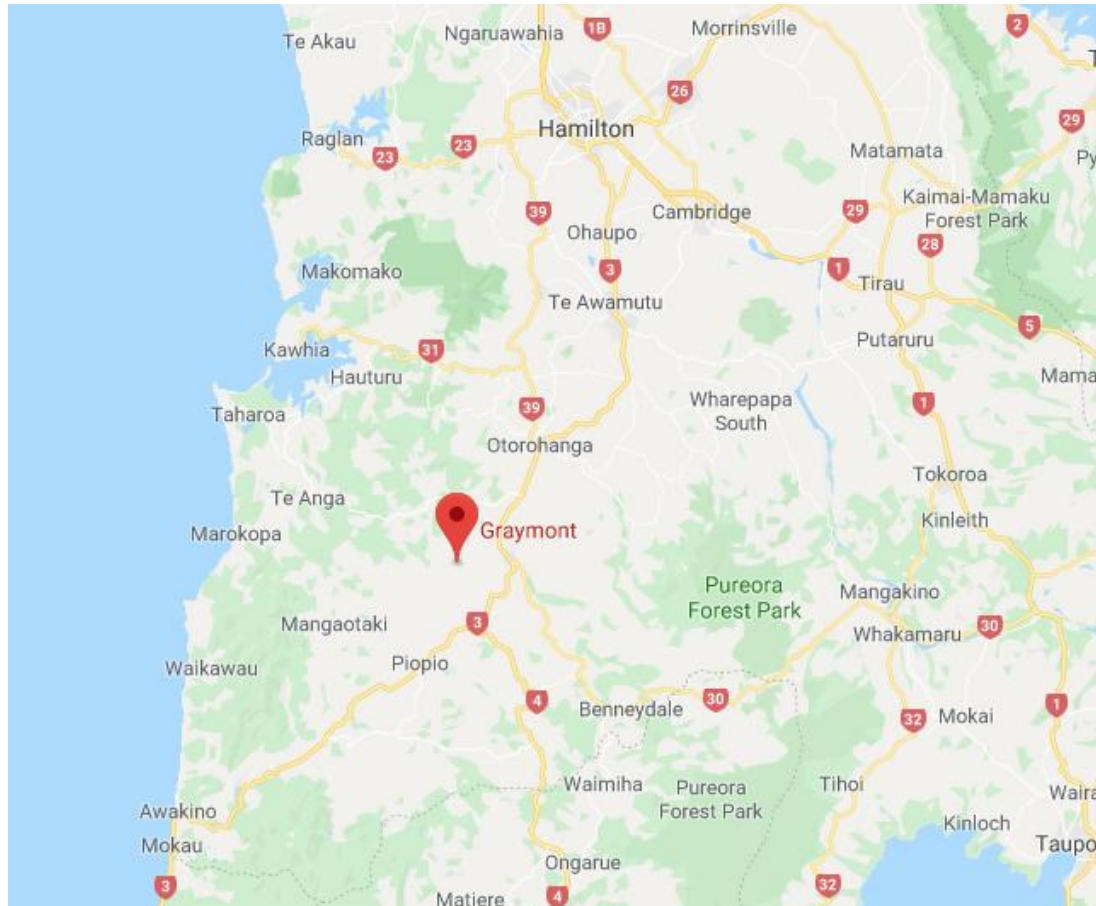


Figure 1. The location of Graymont Quarry in the Waitomo District (source: Google Maps 2025)

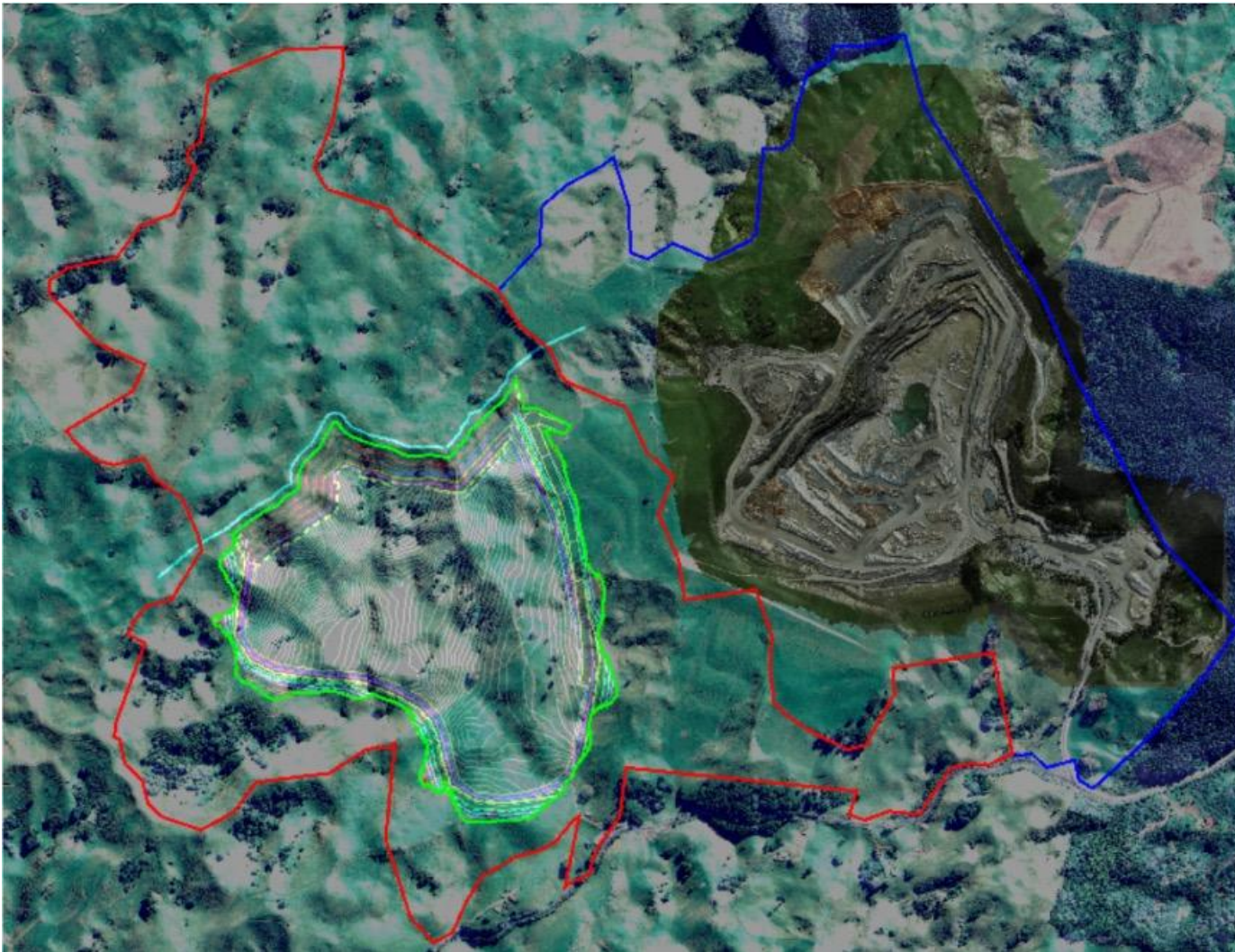


Figure 2. The Graymont SW Pit (outlined in green) west of the existing quarry and plant at Oparure (outlined in blue) (source: Graymont)

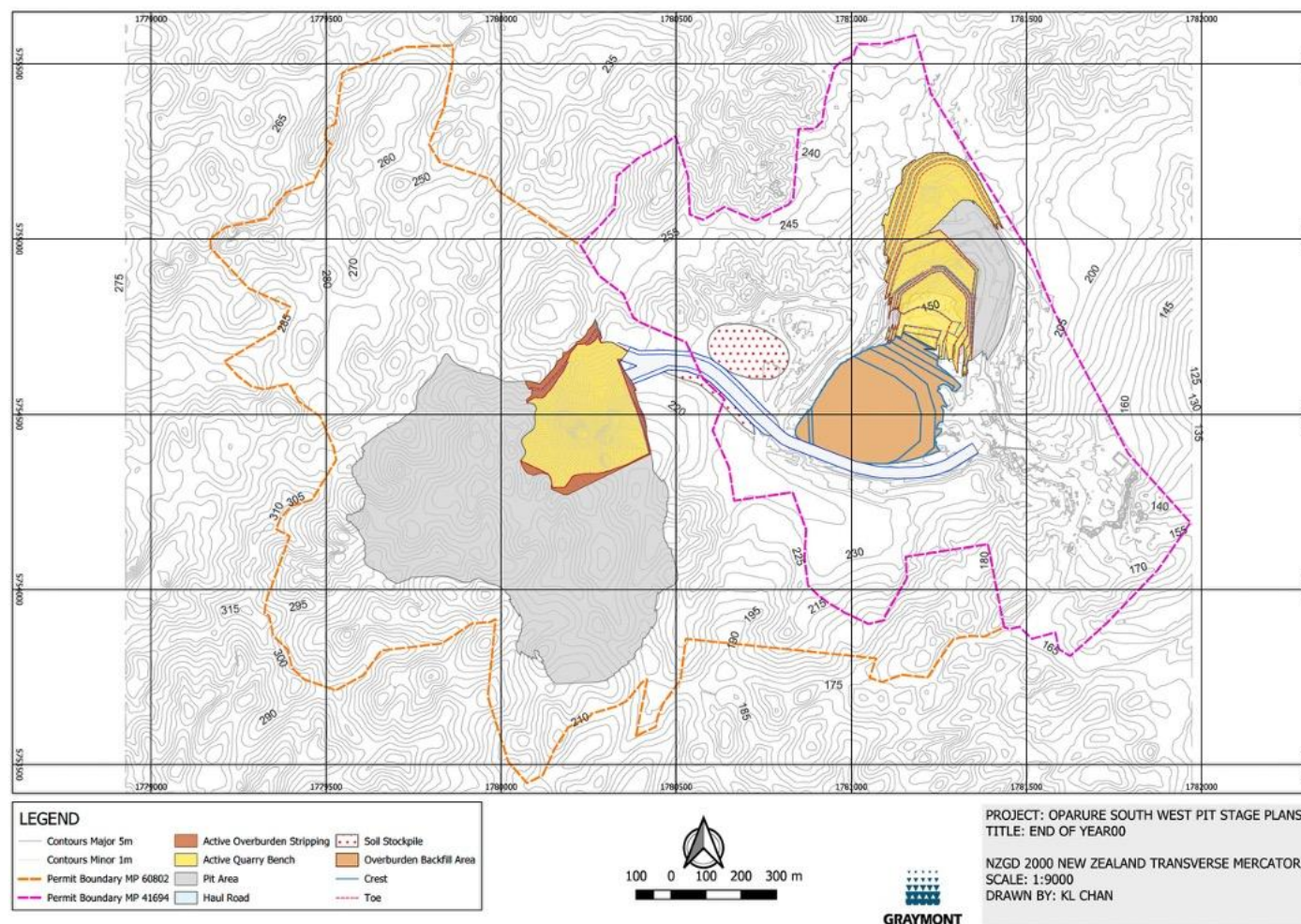


Figure 3. SW Pit Stage Plan: End of Year 00 (source: Graymont)

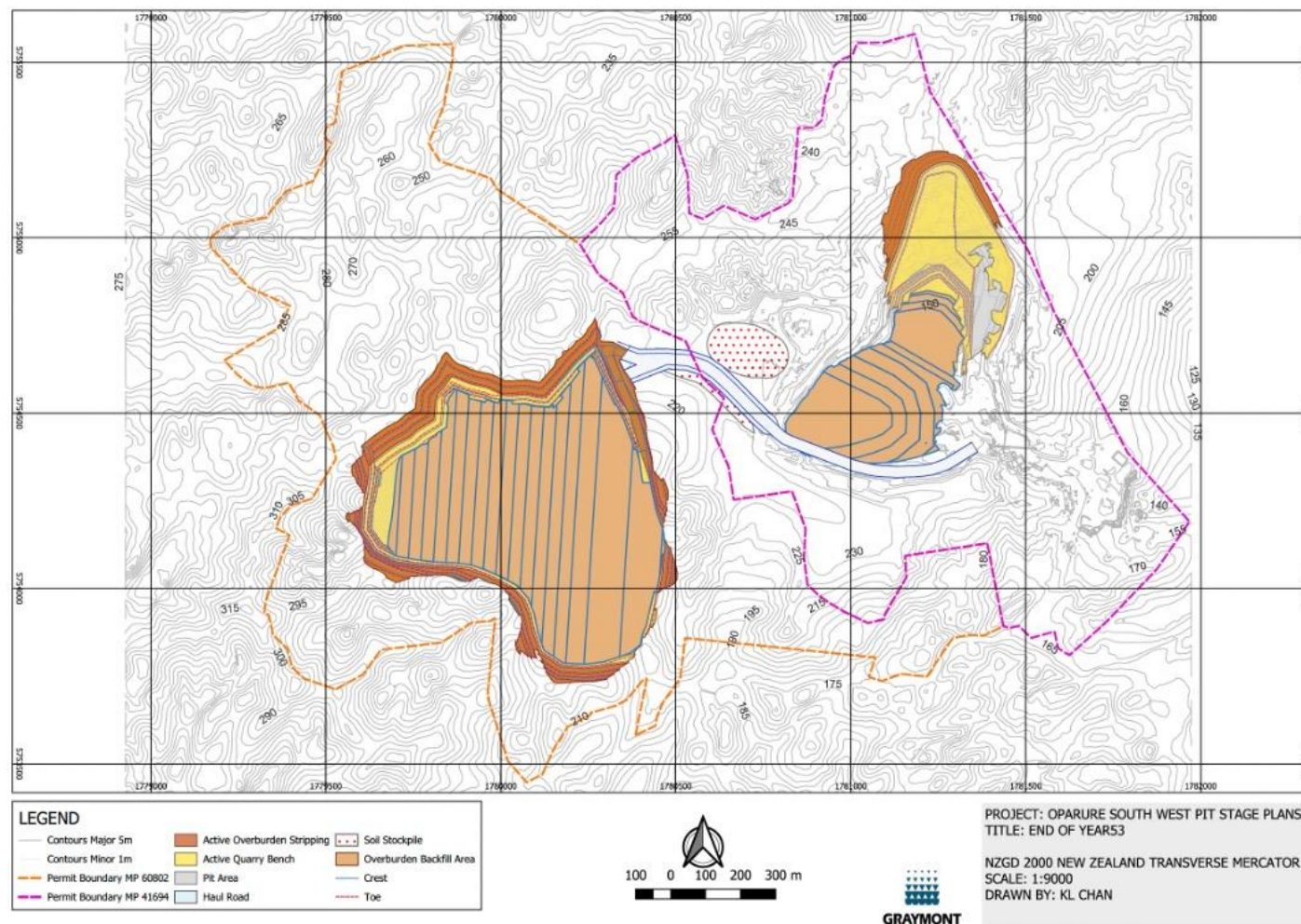


Figure 4. South-Western Pit Stage Plan: End of Year53 (source: Graymont)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Māori Settlement ¹

In oral tradition the Tainui waka, captained by chief Hoturoa, made its final landfall at Kāwhia some 800 years ago. The canoe had travelled around various parts of the central North Island, including the Bay of Plenty, the Coromandel, around the Manukau Heads and the Hauraki Gulf, with some people leaving the voyage and settling in these areas. Hoturoa is said to have made his base at Kāwhia and over the years the Tainui people expanded inland from here. This included movement into the Waitomo – Te Kūiti area.

Te Kūiti is at the heart of Ngāti Maniapoto territory, who trace their lineage back to the Tainui canoe. To Māori, the King Country region was known as Te Rohe Pōtae, while Te Kūiti lies in an area known to Māori as ‘Pukenui’ and the local Oparure area northwest of Te Kūiti is ‘Pakeho’, meaning rock. Te Kūiti, in its original form of ‘Te Kūititanga’ translates as ‘the valley’, ‘the squeezing in’ or ‘the narrowing’. Te Kūititanga was a Māori village at the entrance to the Mangaōkewa Gorge at the southern end of present-day Te Kūiti (Figure 5). Within Te Rohe Pōtae Māori settlements were often small and concentrated around coastal harbours, or along waterways and tributaries, such as the Mōkau River and the fertile Waipā River. The summits and ridges of the ranges, however, were where pa were built to defend against inter-tribal warfare.²

During the early years of the 19th century, contact with European traders and missionaries increased, with one result being the introduction of muskets into Māori inter-tribal conflicts. The use of these weapons in inter-tribal warfare continued on into the 1840s in what has been referred to as the Musket Wars.

In the years following the Musket Wars the influence from missionaries on the Māori population increased. At Te Awamutu, a Church Missionary Society missionary named John Morgan (who resided at the Otawhao Mission with his wife Maria from January 1841 until 1863) played a prominent role in introducing European agricultural practices to local Māori. Morgan, however, also acted as an informant for the government concerning events in the Waikato. Rev. Richard Matthews, with his family, passed through the Te Kūiti district in 1841 during a journey from Putiki Mission (near Whanganui) to Auckland.

Conflicts between Māori and the government over the European demand for land in New Zealand were also occurring during this period and had resulted in open conflict by the early 1840s. The tension between Māori and the Government only grew over time and in 1858 this resulted in the founding of the King Movement (Kingitanga) in the Waikato, with the first king being Pōtatau Te Wherowhero. The movement aimed to unite Māori under a single leader to strengthen their ability to oppose the loss of their land from the growing demands from the ever-increasing number of European settlers arriving in New Zealand. Ngāti Maniapoto affirmed Te Wherowhero as the first king, and they continued

¹ While based on reliable documentary sources, this information should not be viewed as complete or without other context.

² <https://teara.govt.nz/en/1966/te-kuiti>; Tūhuatahi Tui Adams and Paul Meredith, 'Ngāti Maniapoto', Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/ngati-maniapoto/print> (accessed 17 November 2019)

to resist loss of land and of tribal authority. They later supported those fighting the British troops in the Taranaki and Waikato conflicts of the 1860s.

The invasion of the Waikato by British troops in 1863-64 saw its final days in the area around Waikeria, with the last major battle being at Ōrakau. At the conclusion of the Waikato Wars, the Puniu River marked the division between British and Māori lands, with European settlements established at Kihikihi and Te Awamutu (Cowan 1983). The Crown's New Zealand Settlement Act 1863 allowed the confiscation of 1.2 million acres (486,000ha) of the Waikato's most productive and strategic land. While pakeha flooded into the region, King Tawhiao, successor to his father Te Wherowhero, and thousands of fellow Waikato people sought refuge in Ngāti Maniapoto country to the south, an area the pakeha consequently called the 'King Country'. Te Kūiti was the headquarters of the Māori King for some years after the war.

The King Country was situated in the heart of the British colony, ruled by a Māori monarch who defied English laws. The most famous person to seek refuge there was Te Kooti Arikirangi Te Turuki. After killing about 30 Europeans and 20 Māori in raids on settlements on Poverty Bay in 1868, he was chased by colonial troops and kūpapa for four years. Te Kooti fled to the Mangaōkewa Valley in 1872 for sanctuary with the Ngāti Maniapoto. He remained in the King Country until 1893 and gifted the Te Tokanganui-a-Noho meeting house to Ngāti Maniapoto as a gesture of thanks for their hospitality not long after receiving a government pardon in 1883.



Figure 5. Photograph of the Te Kūititanga pā located south of modern Te Kūiti in 1884 (source: Anon in <https://heritage.cms.waikato.ac.nz/greenstone3/library/sites/hnz/collect/pdf-reports/index/assoc/Webb109.dir/Webb109.pdf;jsessionid=8D73092607407C40425212E245068961>)

European Settlement

In the late 1870s Reihana te Huatare Wahanui and other Ngāti Maniapoto leaders, despite the opposition of Tawhiao, agreed to permit the central King Country to be opened up by the railway. In 1887 the main trunk railway line reached Te Kūiti, where a camp was set up to house construction workers. This formed the nucleus of a busy new township. Te Kūiti was the end of the railway line until 1894, when the tracks reached Poro-ō-tarao tunnel to the south-east. The construction workers then departed.³ In November 1908 Te Kūiti obtained rail communication through to Wellington (Figure 6).

The outer lying areas of Te Kūiti were opened up for European settlement in the 1890s and Te Kūiti's fortunes lifted after farms were established to the south and west. Te Kūiti remains a rural service town with a strong farming economy.

Oparure is a small rural settlement 28km north-west of Te Kūiti and 10km south of the Waitomo caves. Like Waitomo the area is full of limestone caves. A Māori school was opened at Oparure in 1902 after Ruita Te Mihinga Joseph, a local landowner, donated the land for this purpose. The school is now Te Wharekura o Oparure, a Māori-language immersion school.

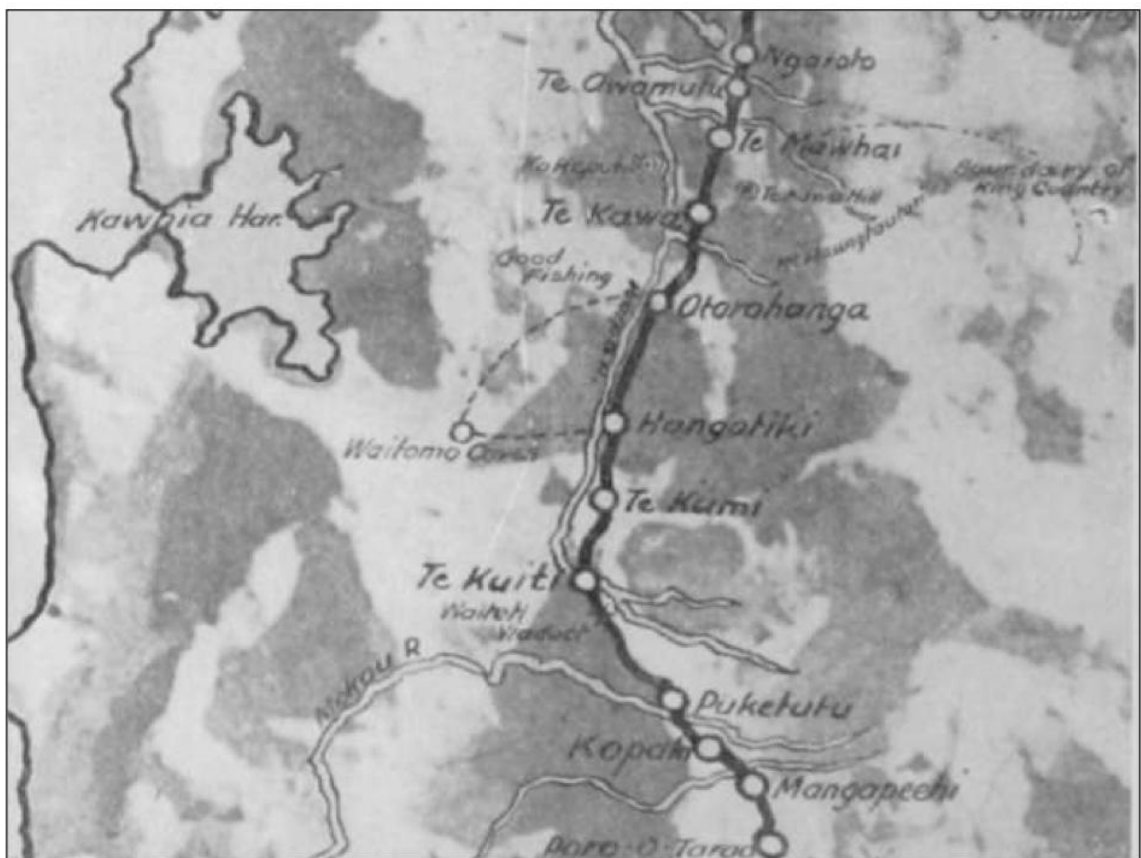


Figure 6. Map showing the line of the North Island Main Trunk Railway extending south from Otorohanga to Te Kūiti (source: Cowan 1928b).

³ <https://teara.govt.nz/en/king-country-places/page-3>.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

There are no previously recorded archaeological or other historic heritage sites within the Project area. Eight recorded archaeological sites are recorded in the wider vicinity of the Project area and two recorded archaeological sites are located in close vicinity on the Mangawhikau Stream valley, to the north of the existing quarry and Project area – S16/305 Pa and S16/216 Pa (see

Table 1; Figure 7 and Figure 8).

These two pa sites rely on the natural defences of the precipitous limestone cliffs in this area for defence and both sites are recorded as named ‘Nikau’ (Phillips 1995) (see Appendix 1). ‘Nikau’ Pa is described as within the domain of Ngāti Kinohaku, near the village of Oparure. The pa ‘Nikau’ was at one time besieged by a Ngāti Raukawa expedition led by Hape but driven off by Ngāti Maniapoto (Phillips 1995). Within the wider vicinity of the Project area the recorded sites are primarily focused along the major river systems and their tributaries of the Mangapu River and Mangatea Stream to the north-east.

The Project area, as with much of the inland King Country, has not been intensively surveyed for archaeological or other historic heritage sites. Those sites identified were recorded between 1975 and 1991, some 35-51 years ago. They were mainly recorded either from references in books (i.e. Phillips 1995) or maps and plans, or from aerial photographs. As a result, only a few of these sites have ever been field checked by an archaeologist to verify their existence, their exact location and their extent. Certainly, none of these sites have been revisited since 1991, and most have not been visited since 1975.

As a result no current state and condition reports for any of the recorded King Country sites appear to be available and it is difficult to determine the significance of any of these sites. However, almost all of the recorded sites are pa, or large defended sites, some of which have documented histories. Therefore, depending on their current condition, they will be both archaeologically significant and of traditional significance to Māori, and potentially of high significance.

The Proposed Waitomo District Plan does not show sites S16/216 and S16/305 on the planning maps and these sites are not included on Schedule 2 - Significant Archaeological Sites | Ngā Wāhi Mātai Whaipara Tāngata, or Schedule 3 - Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori | Ngā Wāhi Tapu ki te Māori.

However, the planning maps show on the neighbouring block to the east of the existing Graymont Quarry a scheduled Site and Area of Significance to Māori | Ngā Wāhi Tapu ki te Māori (Schedule 3) - SSM139-A Paku Kohatu Urupa (Category - Takotoranga (Burial Site)) (Figure 9). This site is associated with ancestral burial practices. Values and significance - this is an ancient burial site and is associated with tapu or sacred burial practices. This site is particularly significant to, and under the guardianship of the local tribal custodians (people).

No additional archaeological or other cultural heritage sites were identified within the Project area on the Proposed District Plan.

Table 1. Recorded archaeological sites in the wider vicinity and close vicinity (shaded) of the Graymont Quarry and Project area, Oparure (source: ArchSite)

NZAA Site No.	Imperial Site No.	Site Type	NZTM Grid Reference	Name
R16/540		Pa	E1778887 N5751778	Pehiope?
S16/210	N83/18	Artefact Findspot	E1782983 N5755784	
S16/216	N83/24	Pa – west side of Mangawhitikau Stream in the Hurahura Gorge	E1781233 N5755932	Nikau
S16/223	N83/31	Pit	E1783987 N5753384	
S16/242	N83/55	Pa	E1783882 N57556885	Te Tuhi a te Aomarama
S16/243	N83/56	Pa	E1784383 N5756786	
S16/251	N83/65	Pa?	E1783288 N5752183	
S16/305		Pa – south side of Mangawhitikau Stream within the limestone cliffs	E1780532 N5756331	Nikau

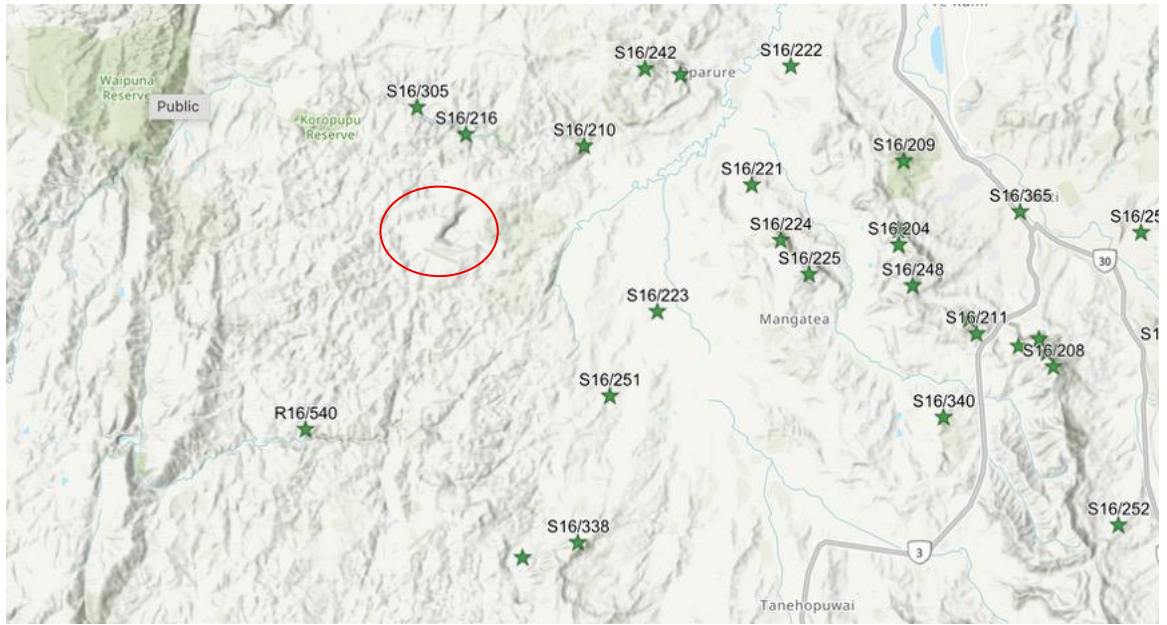


Figure 7. Recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity of the project area (circled) (source: Archsite 2026)

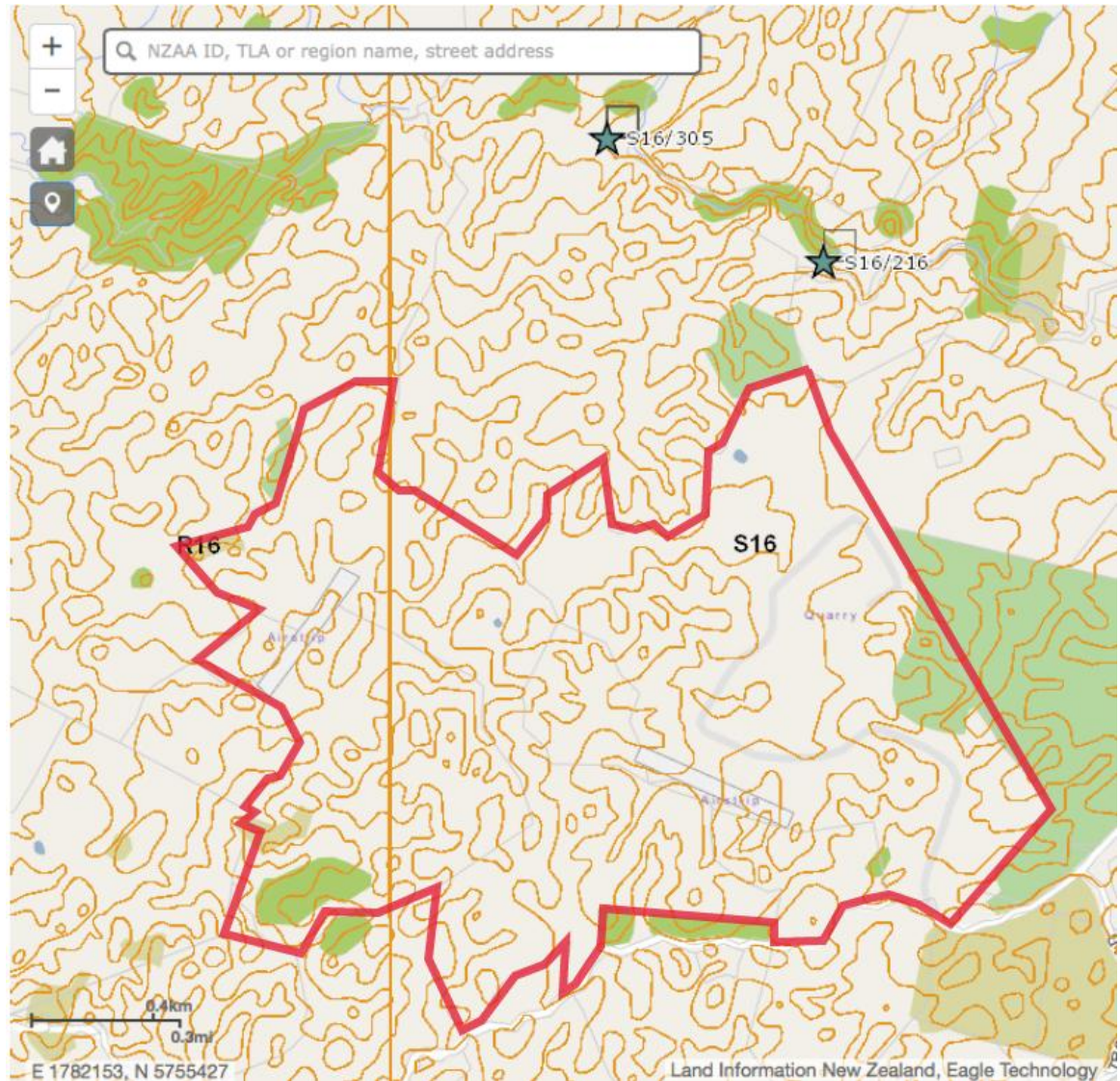


Figure 8. Location of recorded archaeological sites (stars) S16/216 and S16/305 in close proximity to the Graymont Quarry and Project area (marked in red) (source: ArchSite)

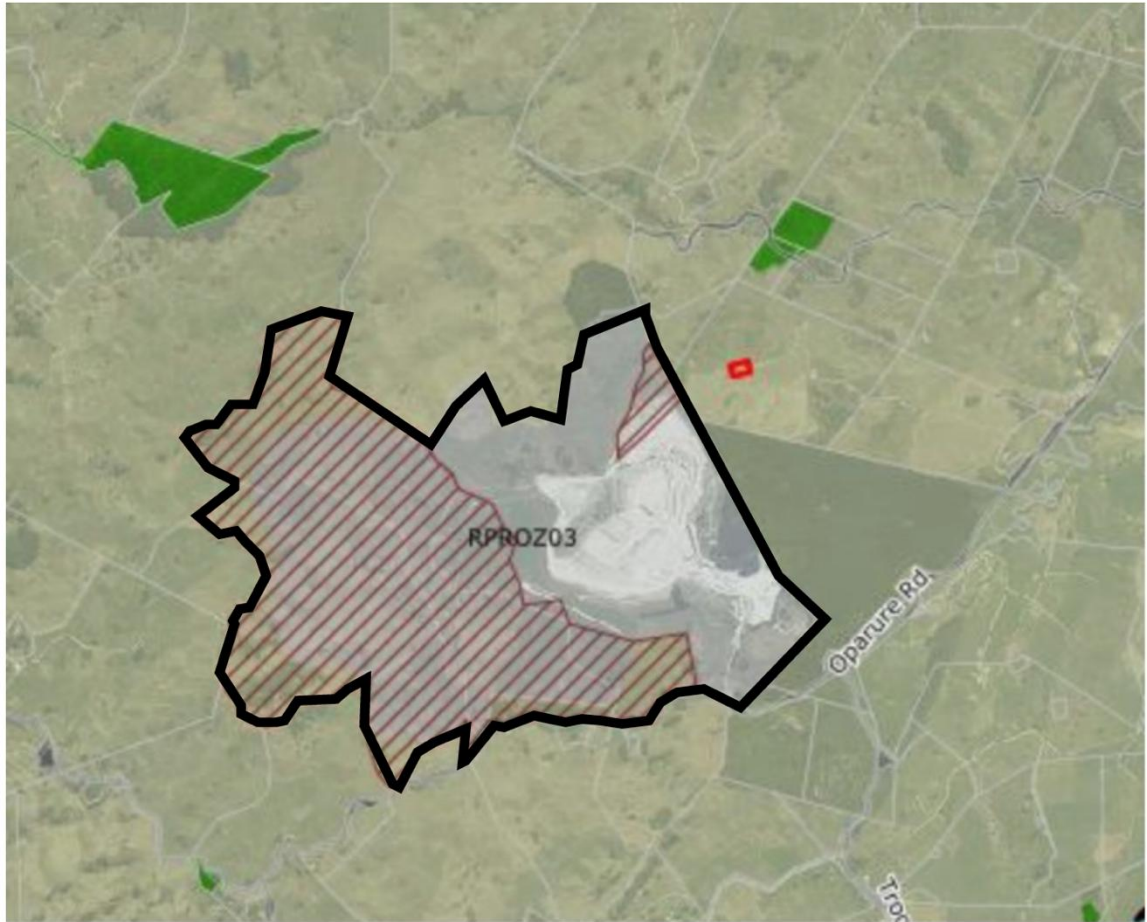


Figure 9. Detail from the Proposed Waitomo District Plan planning maps showing location of SSM139-A Paku Kohatu Urupa (Category - Takotoranga (Burial Site) (orange square). The existing Graymont Quarry and Project area are outlined in black

Information from Early Maps and Plans

In addition to the recorded archaeological sites an examination of early survey plans and aerial photographs of the Project area did not identify any specific items of historic interest within the proposed quarry expansion area.

Survey plan ML 6756 (1900) is a subdivision plan of Kinohaku East No.2 (Pakeho) (Figure 10). The existing Oparure Pit and proposed Project area extend over a large part of No.2A Pokirangi and the eastern end of No. 11, 12 and 10. This plan identifies a small, surveyed block described as No.23 (Potea) within No. 17 (Lot 2 DPS 88794) on the neighbouring property to the east of the existing quarry. This corresponds with the scheduled Site and Area of Significance to Māori | Ngā Wāhi Tapu ki te Māori (Schedule 3) - SSM139-A Paku Kohatu Urupa.

On ML 6756 a track is visible running through No. 2A in the approximate vicinity of the northern extent of the Graymont properties but north of the existing Oparure Pit. Numerous Māori names are shown within these land blocks, which likely relate to geographic features or known areas, however 'Nikau' is not named in the location of either S16/216 or S16/305 on the Mangawhitikau Stream to the north.



Figure 11. Survey Plan ML 7585 (1909) showing No.23 Potea urupa, ‘Undulating open country good limestone land’ ‘Bush’ and ‘Underground Stream’ highlighted at the bottom (source: LINZ)

Of historic interest, another survey Plan SO 12606 (1903) identifies the surveyed subdivision of a Special Settlement for Returned Troopers on both sides of Troopers Road. This covered a large area to the south of Oparure Road and well clear of the Project area. Examination of this plan shows an ‘orchard’, two areas of ‘cultivations’ and ‘Whares’ in this area. To the north of this area and west of Lake Rototapu is marked ‘Cemetery Morehurehu’.

Physical Environment

The proposed SW Pit, or Project, area is located some 5-9 km west of Te Kūiti and just south of Oparure on the northern side of Oparure Road (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The existing Graymont Quarry is an open pit with associated infrastructure accessed off Oparure Road and located immediately to the east of the Project area. Access to the SW Pit site will be from the existing Graymont Oparure Pit access road via a new haul road to be constructed over a previous quarry overburden area north of the airstrip and west of the existing pit.

The Project area is currently an active dry stock farm with associated farm buildings. It is predominantly a large area of undulating grasslands within a 'karst' landscape that is notable for its sequence of sharp ridges, deep gullies, 'pancake' rock outcrops, sinkholes (tomo) and cave systems. Tomo are formed when ground water dissolves underlying limestone rock. The dissolved hole enlarges to a point where it cannot support the ground above it. Rubble falls into the hole, initially supporting overlying material, but leaves a visible 'slump' on the surface. Water erodes the supporting material so that eventually the overlying material also falls away, leaving a hole. This topography is typically characteristic for the Waitomo and Otorohanga Districts as far east as the Hawkes Bay and therefore not notable.

Most of the karst sinkholes on the Project area are filled in or closed off, and most cave openings are only small cracks in the hill slopes. However, occasionally there are potentially larger openings and potential cave systems follow the lineation of the karst features. The Proposed Waitomo District Plan identifies known cave systems (WDP Appendix 12 – Karst Overlay) and located within the Project area is the Digme–Camelot system (KO05). This cave system is part of the largest autogenic karst system known in the North Island. The entrance to Camelot is open and Digme is largely beneath the existing Oparure Pit.

Pockets of remnant native forest are found in the gullies of the Project area and are probably residual pockets of what was once extensive tawa and totara dominated forest. Intermixed with the predominantly open pasture on the Project area are shelter belts, pine woodlots and a loose scattering of bush.

FIELD ASSESSMENT

Field Survey Results

The field survey of the Project area was carried out over two days. Ridges, interesting landforms, tomos, land slips and flat terraces were inspected for cultural layers and/or archaeological features. Test pits were dug in possible site locations and/or to understand the local stratigraphy (Figure 12).

The general topography of the area consists of a karst landscape with some rolling hills, sharp ridges and deep gullies (Figure 14 and Figure 14). All the gullies were dry despite streams being noted on topographic plans (Figure 13). Numerous pancake rock formations, tomos and cave entrances are visible across the Project area (Figure 16 - Figure 20). Frequent land slips and natural slumping of steep slopes was evident, probably caused by years of stock damage (Figure 21). The property is an active farm with both cattle and sheep. Two farm buildings were noted at the entrance to the property. Most of the farm roads have benched the surrounding hills (Figure 22).

Features noted during the survey included two airstrips, rock filled drains, and an old pumphouse siphoning water from a nearby cave (see Figure 12). One of the airstrips is located within the boundary of the existing quarry on the eastern side of the Project area (E1780900, N 5754226), and the other one is located to the north of the Project area (E1779439, N5754590). Both are shown on the topographic map (Figure 13). The airstrip within the existing quarry is tarmacked and is possibly still in use (Figure 23). Both are areas where extensive earthworks / filling has occurred to create a flat even terrace. At either end of the northern airstrip were remains of timber enclosures and a set of railway lines (Figure 24). The cast iron railway lines measured 9m long and were spaced 2.23m apart and partly covered by grass.

An old, corrugated iron pumphouse was located near the entrance of the Guildford Cave system, which was still in use and diverting water out of the cave stream (Figure 25 and Figure 25). No archaeological material was noted in the cave entrance. Near the farm building at the southern extent of the property were a series of narrow rock-filled farm drains (E1780828, N5753854) (Figure 27 and Figure 27), consisting of a central drain aligned downslope with a series of smaller horizontally aligned siphoning drains abutting the central drain. Generally, these drains were 0.50m wide and filled with shingle type limestone rock found at the nearby outcrop.

Ten test pits were dug on ridge tops, spurs, natural terraces, colluvial slumps and hill tops (see Figure 12). The stratigraphy was generally similar in each test pit with a loose light brown silty loam topsoil (up to 200mm thick). The topsoil interface gave way to a firm orange red silty clay natural substrate. The test pits were 300 to 400mm deep and no cultural layers or artefacts were encountered (Figure 29).

No archaeological or other historic heritage sites were identified within the Project area during the field survey. It was concluded that there is unlikely to have been any significant Māori occupation of this area as the steep and remote inland forest country that would have covered this region would generally have been unsuitable for intensive Māori settlement. Also, the lack of flowing streams or primary water sources and thin topsoil layers unsuitable for horticulture would have discouraged intensive or permanent settlement. However, these inland forest areas would have provided a source of raw materials for Māori (plants, fibre, birds etc).

Most of the karst sinkholes on the Project area are filled in or closed off, and most cave openings are only small cracks in the hill slopes. However, any cave entrances found on the Project area were examined and no archaeological remains were identified within them. Deeper caves could hold archaeological material and certainly could have been sources of water, but these features are typically characteristic and common throughout the Waitomo area.

Deep caves were not extensively investigated during the field survey for health and safety reasons. However, experienced cavers have entered and investigated caves on the Project area. Subsequent to the field survey a site visit to the Project area was undertaken with Graymont and members of Oparure Marae to discuss the Project.

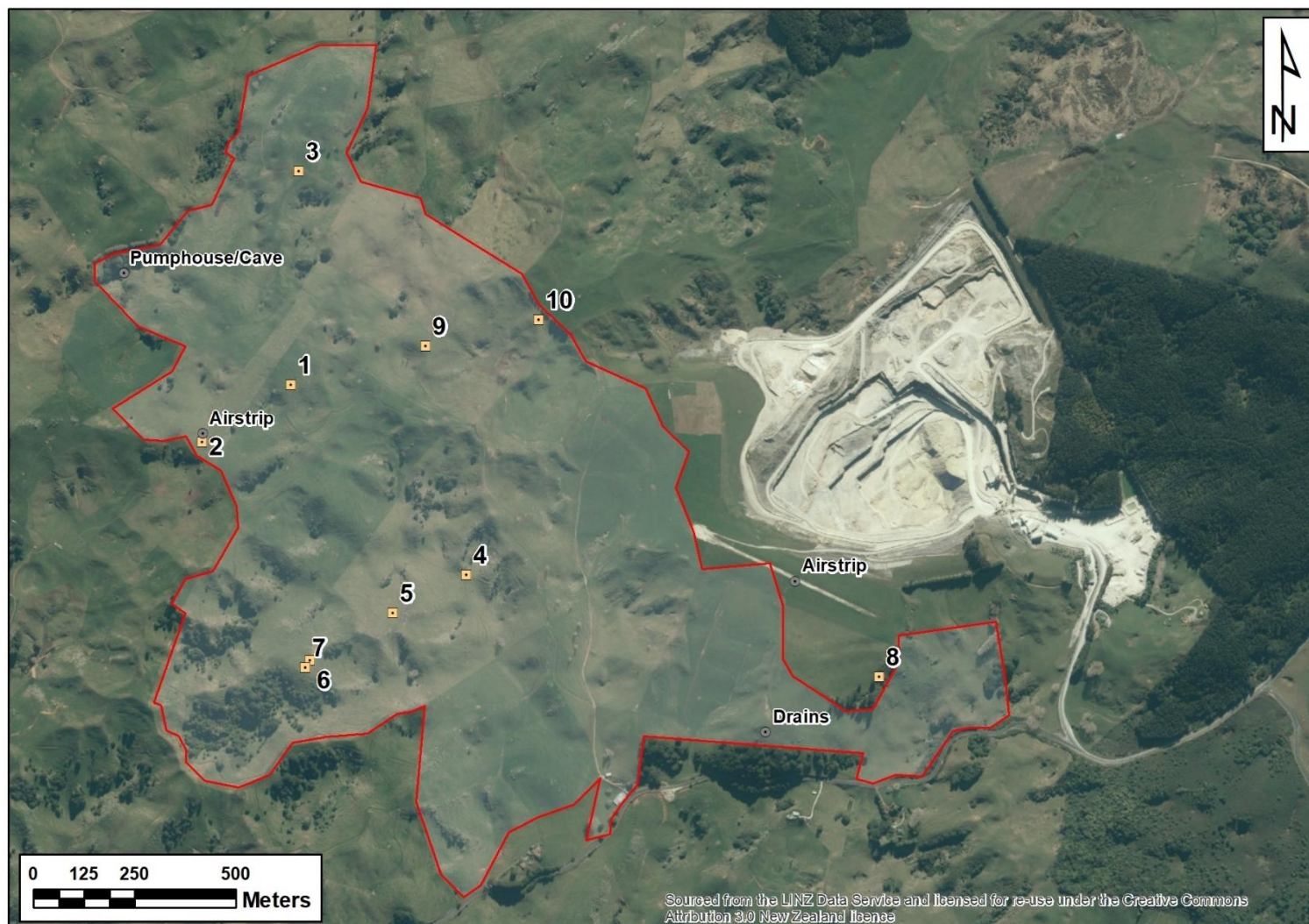


Figure 12. Test pit locations and extent surveyed (outlined in red). Features discussed are indicated



Figure 13. NZTM Topo 2009 showing the extent of the Project area containing the proposed South-Western Pit in red and location of the airstrips



Figure 14. General shot of the topography and surrounding landscape



Figure 15. General shot of the topography with a man-made lake



Figure 16. Typical rock outcrop found on the Project area

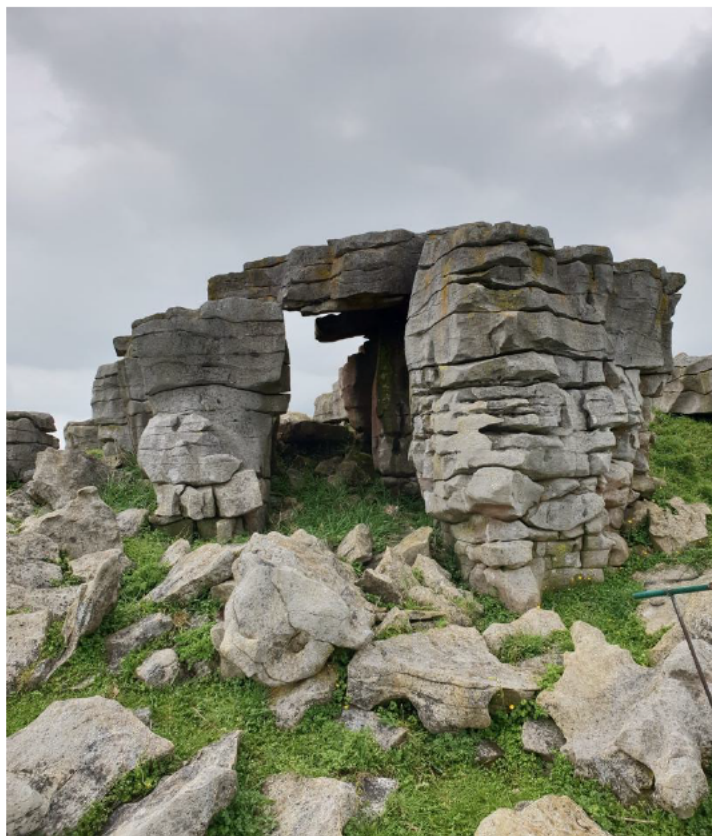


Figure 17. Pancake rock outcrop within the Project area



Figure 18. Example of a tomo



Figure 19. Guildford Cave entrance found within the Project area



Figure 20. Inside the cave shown in Figure 19



Figure 21. Natural area of slope slumping and test pit 5



Figure 22. Farm roads and slope erosion



Figure 23. Airstrip near the existing quarry



Figure 24. Remains of a timber enclosure on the northern airstrip



Figure 25. Pumphouse located in the entrance of the Guildford Cave system (red square)



Figure 26. Pumphouse in the entrance of the Guildford Cave system



Figure 27. Rock-filled farm drains



Figure 28. Facing west overlooking the rock-filled farm drains



Figure 29. General test pit stratigraphy (Test pit 1 – scale interval 6.62cm)

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Summary of Results

Graymont is planning to develop and operate a new limestone pit (SW Pit) on a 48ha area of land adjacent to its existing Oparure Pit at Oparure, near Te Kūiti in the King Country.

No archaeological or other historic heritage sites were identified within the footprint of the Project area, either through background research or the field survey. The steep and remote inland bush country that would have covered this area would generally have been unsuitable for intensive Māori settlement. This conclusion takes into account the archaeological evaluation of Māori settlement patterns – a broad territory or rohe, usually coastal in orientation but with access to numerous inland resources (mara). Inland locations for Māori settlement were generally focused along major river systems and their tributaries, access routes, defensible locations, as well as where there were abundant food sources such as rivers, lakes, wetlands and flat arable land with good agricultural soils.

Two pa sites (S16/305 and S16/216) are located north of the Project area along the Mangawhitikau Stream and within the wider vicinity recorded sites are primarily focused along the major river systems and their tributaries of the Mangapu River and Mangatea Stream to the north-east.

Survey Limitations

It should be noted that archaeological survey techniques (based on visual inspection and minor sub-surface testing) cannot necessarily identify all sub-surface archaeological features or detect wahi tapu and other sites of traditional significance to Māori, especially where these have no physical remains.

Archaeological Value and Significance

The archaeological value of sites relates mainly to their information potential, that is, the extent to which they can provide evidence relating to local, regional and national history using archaeological investigation techniques, and the research questions to which the site could contribute. The surviving extent, complexity and condition of sites are the main factors in their ability to provide information through archaeological investigation. For example, generally pa are more complex sites and have higher information potential than small midden (unless of early date). Archaeological value also includes contextual (heritage landscape) value. Archaeological sites may also have other historic heritage values including historical, architectural, technological, cultural, aesthetic, scientific, social, spiritual, traditional and amenity values.

No archaeological or other historic values were identified within the Project area as a result of background research and field survey.

Effects of the Project

Development of the SW Pit will have no effects on any known archaeological sites and therefore, will have no effect on any known archaeological or historic values.

In any area where archaeological sites have been recorded in the general vicinity it is possible that unrecorded subsurface remains may be exposed during development.

However, it is considered a low possibility in this situation due to steep and remote inland location of the Project area away from major river systems and their tributaries, and the lack of any evidence identified by background research and field survey. The possibility can be provided for by a general resource consent condition relating to the accidental discovery of archaeological remains, requiring that if any archaeological remains are exposed during development, work should cease in the immediate vicinity and the Council and Heritage NZ should be informed. Recommended conditions of consent and protocols for the accidental discovery of archaeological sites, taonga and koiwi tangata are provided in Appendix 3 of this report.

Archaeological features and remains can take the form of burnt and fire cracked stones, charcoal, rubbish heaps including shell, bone and/or 19th century glass and crockery, ditches, banks, pits, old building foundations, artefacts of Māori and early European origin or human burials.

STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

Whilst the application is made under the Fast-track Approvals Act, the provisions of the RMA and HNZPTA remain relevant in consideration of the proposal.

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

In accordance with clause 17, Schedule 5 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024, sections 5, 6 and 7 of Part 2 of the RMA must be considered.

Under Section 42(4)(a) an application may seek a resource consent that would otherwise be applied for under the Resource Management Act 1991.

As well, the application may seek under Section 42 subsection (4) (i) an archaeological authority described in section 44(a) or (b) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 that would otherwise be applied for under that Act.

Resource Management Act 1991 Requirements

Section 6 of the RMA recognises as matters of national importance: ‘the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga’ (S6(e)); and ‘the protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development’ (S6(f)).

All persons exercising functions and powers under the RMA are required under Section 6 to recognise and provide for these matters of national importance when ‘*managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources*’. There is a duty to avoid, remedy, or mitigate any adverse effects on the environment arising from an activity (S17), including historic heritage.

Historic heritage is defined (S2) as ‘those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand’s history and cultures, deriving from any of the following qualities: (i) archaeological; (ii) architectural; (iii) cultural; (iv) historic; (v) scientific; (vi) technological’. Historic heritage includes: ‘(i) historic sites, structures, places, and areas; (ii) archaeological sites; (iii) sites of significance to Māori, including wahi tapu; (iv) surroundings associated with the natural and physical resources’.

Regional, district and local plans contain sections that help to identify, protect and manage archaeological and other heritage sites. The plans are prepared under the rules of the RMA. The Waikato Regional Policy Statement (2016) and Proposed Waitomo District Plan are relevant to the proposed activity.

This assessment addresses historic heritage objectives and policies of the RPS through the archaeological survey and research of the project area, to determine whether significant historic heritage places, or previously unidentified historic heritage, are affected by the proposal.

Summary of Historic Heritage Requirements under the RMA

There are no scheduled historic heritage sites located on the property. This assessment has established that the proposed activity will have no effect on any known archaeological remains and has little potential to affect unrecorded subsurface remains. If resource consent is granted, consent conditions relating to archaeological monitoring or protection would therefore not be required. A general condition relating to the accidental discovery of

archaeological remains is recommended, requiring that if any archaeological remains are exposed during development, work should cease in the immediate vicinity and the Council and Heritage NZ should be informed.

It is also recommended that the Accidental Discovery Protocols for Archaeological Sites, Taonga and Koiwi Tangata recommended in this report (see Appendix 3) are adopted for the proposed SW Pit, and staff and contractors are briefed and shown a visual identification guide on archaeological site types and features that may be exposed.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 Requirements

In addition to any requirements under the RMA, the HNZPTA protects all archaeological sites whether recorded or not, and they may not be damaged or destroyed unless an Authority to modify an archaeological site has been issued by Heritage NZ (Section 42).

An archaeological site is defined by the HNZPTA Section 6 as follows:

‘archaeological site means, subject to section 42(3), –

(a) any place in New Zealand, including any building or structure (or part of a building or structure) that –

(i) was associated with human activity that occurred before 1900 or is the site of the wreck of any vessel where the wreck occurred before 1900; and

(ii) provides or may provide, through investigation by archaeological methods, evidence relating to the history of New Zealand; and

(b) includes a site for which a declaration is made under section 43(1)’⁴

Authorities to modify archaeological sites can be applied for either in respect to archaeological sites within a specified area of land (Section 44(a)), or to modify a specific archaeological site where the effects will be no more than minor (Section 44(b)), or for the purpose of conducting a scientific investigation (Section 44(c)). Applications that relate to sites of Māori interest require consultation with (and in the case of scientific investigations the consent of) the appropriate iwi or hapu and are subject to the recommendations of the Māori Heritage Council of Heritage NZ. In addition, an application may be made to carry out an exploratory investigation of any site or locality under Section 56, to confirm the presence, extent and nature of a site or suspected site.

Summary of Historic Heritage Requirements under the HNZPTA

An archaeological authority will not be required for the proposed quarry development as no known sites will be affected, and it is unlikely that any undetected sites are present. However, should any sites be exposed during development the provisions of the HNZPTA must be complied with. If modification of an archaeological site does become necessary, an Authority must be applied for under Section 44(a) of the HNZPTA and granted prior to

⁴ Under Section 42(3) an Authority is not required to permit work on a pre-1900 building unless the building is to be demolished. Under Section 43(1) a place post-dating 1900 (including the site of a wreck that occurred after 1900) that could provide ‘*significant evidence relating to the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand*’ can be declared by Heritage NZ to be an archaeological site.

any further work being carried out that will affect the site. (*Note that this is a legal requirement*).

Māori Cultural Values

The Maniapoto Environmental Management Plan

The Maniapoto Environmental Management Plan (Ko Ta Maniapoto Mahere Taiao) prepared by the Maniapoto Māori Trust Board describes issues, policies and actions to protect, restore and enhance the relationship of Maniapoto with the environment; and also social, cultural, spiritual and economic relationships within the Maniapoto rohe.

Part 2.2.5 of the plan states that resource management matters relevant for assessment against the plan include application for designation or resource consent made to local authorities (regional and district councils).

Part 4.1.1 Tangata Whenua Effects Assessment reports (TWEAR) or Cultural Impact Assessments (CIA) provide an assessment of the impacts of a given activity on Maniapoto values and interests. These reports may be requested by Maniapoto, councils or applicants and provide a Maniapoto perspective to the RMA (or other) process.

Part 10. of the plan addresses the protection and management of Maniapoto Cultural Heritage through Objectives, Policies and Actions. Cultural heritage includes wahi tapu, sites, places, traditions, knowledge and landscapes that have a particular cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association with Maniapoto (see Appendix 2).

Objective 10.3.4 To ensure procedures are in place to manage the discovery and accidental discovery of taonga (10.3.4.2) and archaeological sites (10.3.4.3).

The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River

The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River (Te Ture Whaimana o te Awa O Waikato) prepared by the Waikato River Authority is the primary direction setting document for the restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato and Waipa Rivers for current and future generations.

One of its objectives is:

- (i) The protection and enhancement of significant sites, fisheries, flora and fauna.

To achieve the objectives one of its strategies is to:

- (6) Recognise and protect wahi tapu and sites of significance to Waikato-Tainui and other Waikato River Iwi (where they so decide) to promote their cultural, spiritual and historic relationship with the Waikato River.

This report is an assessment of effects on archaeological values and does not include an assessment of effects on Māori cultural values. Such assessments should only be made by the tangata whenua. Māori cultural concerns may encompass a wider range of values than those associated with archaeological sites. The historical association of the general area with the tangata whenua is evident from the recorded sites, traditional histories and known Māori place names.

To address Māori cultural values Graymont has initiated consultation with iwi authorities and developed protocols for the accidental discovery of archaeological sites, tāonga and

koiwi tangata in line with the objectives, policies and actions of relevant iwi plans (see Appendix 3).

Conclusions

No archaeological or other historic values were identified within the Project area of the proposed SW Pit as a result of either background research or field survey, and the proposed activity will therefore have no known effects on historic heritage.

In any area where archaeological sites have been recorded in the general vicinity it is possible that unrecorded subsurface remains may be exposed during development. While it is considered a low possibility in this situation the possibility can be provided for by including a general resource consent condition relating to the accidental discovery of archaeological remains to ensure that the Council and Heritage NZ are contacted should this occur, and developing an Accidental Discovery Protocol for Archaeological Sites, Taonga and Koiwi Tangata for the Graymont Quarries.

In the authors' expert opinion with these measures in place the effects on archaeological and other historic heritage values are negligible, and there are no constraints to the proposed activity on archaeological or historic heritage grounds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

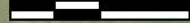
- There should be no constraints on the proposed SW Pit development on archaeological grounds, since no archaeological sites are known to be present and it is considered unlikely that any will be exposed during development.
- If subsurface archaeological evidence should be unearthed during development of the limestone pit (e.g. intact shell midden, hangi, storage pits relating to Māori occupation, or cobbled floors, brick or stone foundation, and rubbish pits relating to 19th century European occupation), work should cease in the immediate vicinity of the remains and Heritage NZ and the Council should be notified.
- If modification of an archaeological site does become necessary, an Authority must be applied for under Section 44(a) of the HNZPTA and granted prior to any further work being carried out that will affect the site.
- Accidental Discovery Protocols consistent with the HNZPTA and Protected Objects Act 1975 are recommended for the Project. These set out procedures to be followed if any archaeological remains, taonga tūturu (artefacts) or koiwi tangata (human remains) are discovered and would require that works are halted in the vicinity of the remains while appropriate action is taken from legal and cultural perspectives.
- Since archaeological survey cannot always detect sites of traditional significance to Māori, such as wahi tapu, tangata whenua should be consulted regarding the possible existence of such sites on the property and recommendations around Accidental Discovery Protocols.

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APPENDIX 1: NZAA SITE RECORD FORMS

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

 Site Record Form		
NZAA Site Number: S16/216 Imperial Site Number: N83/24 Site Type: Pa Site Name(s):	Site Coordinates (NZTM) Easting: 1781283 Northing: 5755982 Source: CINZAS	
		
0 20 40 80  Metres Scale (A4 Paper Size): 1:2,500 Disclaimer: Polygon may not reflect the full extent of the site		
Finding Aids to the Location of the Site: 		
Brief Description: PA		
Condition of Site when last visited: No Recent Info		

Printed by: CLOU_KimTatton_ArchSite

Date Report Created: 16/03/2026

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Site Periods:

Ethnicity:

Maori

Site Features:

Associated Sites:

Description:

Updated 11/12/2025 by ArchSite.

Grid reference changed from (E1781233 / N5755932) to centroid of site polygon (E1781283 / N5755982).

Condition Notes:

Date Report Created: 16/03/2026

SITE RECORD INVENTORY	NZAA SITE NUMBER: S16/216
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Supporting documentation held in ArchSite

ADAR AE BB AAIP

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION SITE RECORD FORM Map number N83 Map name Te Kuiti Map edition 1st 1971 Grid Reference 592815 E 259200 N 481500		SITE NUMBER <u>N83/24</u> SITE NAME: MAORI <u>Nikan</u> OWNER SITE TYPE <u>Pa</u>
1. Aids to relocation of site <u>West side Mangawhitikau stream 1/4 mile above where it flows through cave, in the Huiarau Gorge</u>		
2. State of site; possibility of damage or destruction <u>Good condition, stock erosion possible.</u>		
3. Description of site <i>(NOTE: This section is to be completed ONLY if no separate Site Description Form is to be prepared.)</i>		
4. Owner Address <u>Oparure</u> Attitude <u>Helpful</u>	Tenant/Manager Address Attitude	
5. Methods and equipment used <u>Two men pace measurements, magnetic compass.</u> Photographs taken: Yes/No (Describe on Photograph Record Form) Date recorded <u>25-1-75</u>		
6. Aerial photograph or mosaic No.		Site shows: <u>Clearly/badly/not at all</u>
7. Reported by <u>B. J. Morgan</u> Address <u>6 Eastview Road</u> <u>Glen Innes</u> Date <u>24-3-75</u>	Filekeeper <u>K. C. Gorky</u> Date <u>28-8-75</u>	



NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION SITE DESCRIPTION FORM		SITE NUMBER <i>N83/24.</i>
Map Number N83	Map Name Te Kuiti	SITE NAME: MAORI <i>Nikau</i>
Map Edition 1st 1971	Grid Reference 592815	SITE TYPE Pa

(This form may be used for recording any descriptive information or other supplementary information on the site, or for maps and drawings.)

Pa almost surrounded by limestone cliffs which serve natural defences. The western end has a natural trench through limestone rock and about 10 yards from this earth has been heaped up to a height of about 10 feet to fortify a ridge which is the only easy access route. Part of the North west side has been terraced probably for a cooking area as there are many large hangi stones here. Length west to east 72 yards, width at western trench 29 yards, width at centre 35 yards.

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION PHOTOGRAPH RECORD FORM		SITE NUMBER <u>N83/24.</u>		
Map number <u>N83</u> Map Name <u>Te Kuiti</u>		SITE TYPE <u>Pa.</u>		
Map edition <u>1st 1971</u> Grid reference <u>592815</u>				
Photo No.	Photograph shows:	Negatives held	Neg. size	Date taken
1	Site and Gorge	Yes	35 mm	25-1-75
2	From the Pa toward the west			
3	From site towards the north			
***	Natural west ridge			
4	Natural trench west ridge			

Date Report Created: 16/03/2026

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

 Site Record Form		
NZAA Site Number: S16/305 Imperial Site Number: Site Type: Pa Site Name(s):	Site Coordinates (NZTM) Easting: 1780582 Northing: 5756381 Source: CINZAS	
		
0 20 40 80 Metres Scale (A4 Paper Size): 1:2,500 Disclaimer: Polygon may not reflect the full extent of the site		
Finding Aids to the Location of the Site:		
Brief Description: PA		
Condition of Site when last visited: No Recent Info		

Printed by: CLOU_KimTatton_ArchSite

Date Report Created: 16/03/2026

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Site Periods:

Ethnicity:

Maori

Site Features:

Associated Sites:

Description:

Updated 11/12/2025 by ArchSite.

Grid reference changed from (E1780532 / N5756331) to centroid of site polygon (E1780582 / N5756381).

Condition Notes:

Date Report Created: 16/03/2026

SITE RECORD INVENTORY	NZAA SITE NUMBER: S16/305
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Supporting documentation held in ArchSite

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION SITE RECORD FORM (NZMS260) NZMS 260 map number S 16 NZMS 260 map name Te Kuiti NZMS 260 map edition No.1 1987		NZAA METRIC SITE NUMBER S 16/305 DATE VISITED SITE TYPE Pa SITE NAME: MAORI Pa Nikau OTHER													
Grid References Easting <u>269070.0</u>		Northing <u>631800.0</u>													
1. Aids to relocation of site (attach a sketch map) South side of Mangawhitikau Stream to Sth. of Boddies Rd., 5 km. W. of Oparure.															
2. State of site and possible future damage															
3. Description of site (Supply full details, history, local environment, references, sketches, etc. If extra sheets are attached, include a summary here) Natural defensive pa IN LIMESTONE cliff area See Fin. Phillips' book "Nga Tohu a Tainui" p.100 for history, name and photo of site.															
4. Owner Address		Tenant/Manager Address													
5. Nature of information (hearsay, brief or extended visit, etc.) Photographs (reference numbers, and where they are held) Aerial photographs (reference numbers, and clarity of site)															
6. Reported by Address F.L. Phillips Otorohanga		Filekeeper Date N.C. Laurie Aug. 1991													
7. Key words															
8. New Zealand Register of Archaeological Sites (for office use) NZHPT Site Field Code															
Latitude S <table border="1"> <tr><td>A</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>		A	0	1	P	-	-	Longitude E <table border="1"> <tr><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> </table>		-	-	-	-	N	E
A	0														
1	P														
-	-														
-	-														
-	-														
N	E														
Type of site Local environment today Land classification		Present condition and future danger of destruction Security code Local body													



APPENDIX 2: PART 10.0 MANIAPOTO CULTURAL HERITAGE

Maniapoto Environmental Management Plan (Ko Tā Maniapoto Mahere Taiao)

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PART 9.3

PART 10.0 - MANIAPOTO CULTURAL HERITAGE

10.1 INTRODUCTION

10.1.1 This section addresses the protection and management of Maniapoto cultural heritage and includes wāhi tapu, sites, places, traditions, knowledge and landscapes that have a particular cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association for Maniapoto.

10.1.2 Cultural heritage may include a place containing physical evidence of past occupation and use, such as an archaeological site, or the location of a significant event or landmark that has intangible values linked to stories and histories of the past. Sites may possess cultural and natural values that are tangible or intangible, or a combination of both. These valuable sites hold significance and importance to Maniapoto identity, history and culture.

10.1.3 Wāhi tapu

10.1.3.1 There are numerous wāhi tapu within Maniapoto rohe that are significant and important to the people of Maniapoto. Wāhi tapu reaffirm the spiritual link between whānau and the ancestral landscape. As kaitiaki, Maniapoto have a responsibility and an obligation to protect and enhance wāhi tapu.

10.1.3.2 For Maniapoto wāhi tapu include but are not limited to:

- historical pā, marae, urupā, kāinga, whare wānanga.
- landscape features, monuments, stone quarries, rock art sites.
- sites, places and areas where historical events took place (e.g., places of warfare or ritual).
- areas where archaeological taonga have been found or yet to be found within Maniapoto rohe such as objects, artefacts and structures (eel weirs).
- historic settlements, gardening and mahinga kai areas, as well as pathways used by early tūpuna.

10.1.3.3 Maniapoto will determine wāhi tapu and cultural heritage. It is important that resource users view public records and consult or engage with Maniapoto to determine wāhi tapu that may be affected by a resource use or activity.

10.1.4 Taonga

10.1.4.1 Taonga are those things highly prized and derived from lwi, hapū and whānau. They are whakapapa connected and are passed from one generation to the next. Taonga include but not limited to:

- (a) tangible objects, such as adzes, whakairo (carvings), heirlooms, artefacts, land and fisheries and other objects considered to be taonga tuku iho to Maniapoto
- (b) intangible things, such as language, spiritual beliefs and ideas.

10.1.4.2 Any historical taonga found in the rohe is subject to the Protected Objects Act 1975. A taonga is recognised as taonga tūturu and defined as an object that:

- (a) relates to Māori culture, history, or society; and
- (b) was, or appears to have been
 - (i) manufactured or modified in New Zealand by Māori, or
 - (ii) brought into New Zealand by Māori, or
 - (iii) used by Māori, and
- (c) is more than 50 years old ¹¹.

10.1.4.3 Any taonga of Māori origin found within Maniapoto rohe is subject to Maniapoto tikanga and kawa. For the purposes of the Protected Objects Act 1975, the Board is a registered collector of taonga tūturu.

10.1.4.4 Activities have the potential to contaminate damage or destroy wāhi tapu. Issues arising from activities that may impact on Maniapoto cultural heritage include, but not limited to:

- discovery of kōiwi and related artefacts.
- disturbance of wāhi tapu from tree planting or forestry plantations.

¹¹ Protected Objects Act 1975 see section 2 Interpretation

- public access and restrictions to Maniapoto access.
- food consumption on wāhi tapu.
- graffiti and vandalism.
- subdivision.
- alterations, additions, relocation or demolition of buildings of significance to Maniapoto.
- construction of new buildings and structures on or near Maniapoto listed heritage sites.
- earthworks (including tunnelling, roading, tracking reclamation, and disposal) on wāhi tapu.
- water pollution (point and non-point source discharges).

10.1.5 Taonga Register Geographical Information System (GIS)

10.1.5.1 The Board has invested in a geographic information system (GIS) mapping tool to assist the people of Maniapoto to map wāhi tapu and sites of significance. The GIS tool is a useful mechanism to link Maniapoto cultural heritage information to policy-makers within national and local government. GIS presents complex information in a clearer, visual format that is easily accessed. GIS maps will assist in identifying areas to be protected from resource use and development. The taonga register will help councils to update district and regional plans to protect wāhi tapu and cultural heritage sites of significance.

10.1.5.2 The people of Maniapoto may choose to register sites under the Historic Places Act or maintain a 'silent file'. This record excludes public perusal but is kept for council planning processes.

10.2 ISSUES

10.2.1 Recognition of the role of Maniapoto as rangatira and kaitiaki

10.2.1.1 All policies and management plans, rules and regulations relating to the management of cultural heritage are important to Maniapoto. There is a general lack of consultation and engagement for cultural heritage matters of significance to Maniapoto. For example, local authorities may not adequately identify, designate or schedule cultural heritage areas, wāhi tapu and sites of significance in district plans and policies.

10.2.1.2 Wāhi tapu and sites of significance generally cannot be replaced once destroyed or damaged. Activities or management approaches that lead to the contamination or loss of cultural heritage results in both a spiritual and physical loss to Maniapoto. As kaitiaki, Maniapoto seek to protect cultural heritage for the benefit of the community and ngā uri whakatupu (future generations) to ensure Maniapoto identity, history and culture is upheld.

10.2.1.3 The three mechanisms in the RMA to protect and maintain historic heritage include:

- Section 33 - provides for councils to transfer power or duties to Iwi authorities.
- Section 36(b) - provides for joint management agreements
- Section 188 - provides for Iwi authorities to apply to the Minister for the Environment to become a heritage protection authority.

10.2.1.4 It is important for Maniapoto (who are kaitiaki and/or exercise mana whenua over all or parts of Maniapoto cultural heritage) to determine the appropriate level of protection, control, partnership and management of Maniapoto cultural heritage.

10.2.2 Wāhi tapu and sites of significance

10.2.2.1 The damage and destruction of wāhi tapu and sites of significance (that are known or accidentally discovered) is an issue for the people of Maniapoto. There is often a lack of protection mechanisms and structures for cultural heritage on public or private land/or near coastal areas subject to erosion issues. The historic siting of pā and urupā on cliff tops has resulted in the exposure of kōiwi (human bones) found on beaches.

10.2.2.2 There is a lack of access to and exclusion of Maniapoto participation for the management of cultural heritage on land no longer in Maniapoto ownership due to historical crown policies and actions. Whānau and hapū are holders of knowledge about cultural heritage areas but those that manage crown lands and utilise the land often do not take into account the history of the land and the significant cultural heritage areas.

10.2.2.3 There are numerous cultural heritage areas on privately owned land and this has limited the ability of Maniapoto to exercise kaitiakitanga and to protect and access wāhi tapu. Protection measures on private land will require working collaboratively with local authorities and landowners.

10.2.3 Site management protocols

10.2.3.1 Prior to the commencement of site works and earthworks, clear protocols must be in place to manage the site and the potential or actual discovery of archaeological features and/or taonga tuku iho. Where a wāhi tapu will be modified or destroyed, an authority is required from Heritage New Zealand (HNZ). The application for this activity requires that the relevant lwi shall provide a statement of effect, approval or non-approval. The authority should also require an archaeological management plan prior to approval. Maniapoto input to the archaeological management plan and the adoption of Maniapoto recommendations will ensure that site activities will be managed appropriately.

10.2.4 Discovery of taonga and/or archaeological sites

10.2.4.1 It is important that resource users have in place Accidental Discovery Protocols for the management of archaeological sites and for any taonga that may be discovered during any activity on the work site. Maniapoto will work with resource users and agencies to manage the preservation and protection of taonga and/or sites. Maniapoto cultural monitors may also need to be resourced to be present on projects close to wāhi tapu and sites of significance.

10.2.5 Use of development contributions

10.2.5.1 Currently, local authorities use a portion of development contributions to purchase or develop reserves within their districts. The development contribution policy should be widened to include the protection of wāhi tapu or cultural heritage sites. Council could apply part of the

development contribution to protect and maintain wāhi tapu and cultural sites as a mitigation measure to offset the potential damage and/or destruction to wāhi tapu and/or sites of significance. For example, development contributions should be available for reservation lands granted under section 340 of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 to offset any damage and/or degradation to wāhi tapu and cultural heritage sites. The aim of reservation lands is to enhance and protect the reservation for cultural or other purposes.

Development contributions could also be used to assist private landowners (Māori and non-Māori) in protecting and restoring wāhi tapu and sites of significance.

10.2.6 Rates relief for cultural heritage areas

10.2.6.1 Rates relief policies for cultural heritage areas are generally limited to Māori freehold land. Cultural heritage can also be located on general land. Depending on the level of modification to a cultural heritage area, rates relief could be considered to incentivise landowners, in supporting protection mechanisms for cultural heritage areas.

10.2.7 Protection of sensitive information

10.2.7.1 The protection of sensitive cultural heritage information and the non-disclosure of the location of specific wāhi tapu sites are important to Maniapoto. In the past, fossickers and treasure hunters have raided cultural heritage areas for their own economic benefit. The Board has developed a taonga register to assist local authorities to protect and update cultural heritage schedules in district and regional plans and expects that sensitive information is appropriately protected.



10.3 OBJECTIVES, POLICIES AND ACTIONS

10.3.1 Objective: Recognition of the role of Maniapoto as rangatira and kaitiaki

To ensure Maniapoto participate at the highest level of decision-making on matters that affect cultural heritage within Maniapoto rohe.

10.3.1.1 Policy

Maniapoto is involved at the highest level of decision-making to ensure that cultural heritage in the Maniapoto rohe is protected and enhanced.

Action

- (a) Ensure Maniapoto have appropriate opportunities to be involved in relevant cultural heritage management processes and decision-making to develop and implement plans and strategies.
- (b) Identify and protect cultural heritage in council plans and Heritage New Zealand to give effect to Maniapoto rangatira and kaitiaki role to protect cultural heritage for future generations.
- (c) Ensure Maniapoto is resourced to respond to resource consent applications and/or requests for engagement.
- (d) Identify and protect access to cultural heritage areas for Maniapoto.
- (e) Ensure protection of cultural heritage and archaeological structures from damage, destruction or adverse effects.

10.3.2 Objective: Wāhi tapu and sites of significance

To protect Maniapoto wāhi tapu and sites of significance from the adverse effects of activities.

10.3.2.1 Policy

Maniapoto wāhi tapu are protected from damage, desecration or adverse effects, risks and threats.

Action

- (a) Protect identified wāhi tapu and sites of significance through district and regional plans.
- (b) Work with councils to protect wāhi tapu and other significant sites through the RMA and other regulatory processes.
- (c) Require relevant agencies, councils and other organisations to develop information sharing protocols with Maniapoto to ensure relevant information about wāhi tapu and significant sites is accessible.

- (d) Encourage resource users and land owners to work with and enable Maniapoto to protect wāhi tapu and other significant sites that may be affected by their activities, regardless of land title.

- (e) Requirement that the responsible authority protects wāhi tapu and significant sites located on public land from any adverse effects or activities by way of suitable protection measures (i.e., fencing or other physical barriers) while affording Maniapoto access to their sites.

- (f) Contact private land owners and relevant parties, on a case by case basis, to discuss what steps are required to adequately protect wāhi tapu and make sites accessible to Maniapoto in the long term.

- (g) Ensure that accidental discovery protocols are in place to appropriately manage the accidental discovery of wāhi tapu and taonga (see 10.3.4).

10.3.3 Objective: Site management protocols

Site Management protocols are in place for all work sites that ensure wāhi tapu, kōiwi and taonga are treated in a respectful manner.

10.3.3.1 Policy

Site management protocols are incorporated into site management plans ensuring site works manage the discovery of wāhi tapu, kōiwi and taonga in a respectful way.

Action

- (a) Require the development of site management protocols to assist the management of site activities.
- (b) Employ appropriately qualified archaeologists to oversee all excavations or disturbances near identified sites. Progress and finds will be recorded, investigated and stored in an appropriate facility and manner. The archaeologist will work with Maniapoto to provide joint advice on methods to be undertaken to ensure that adverse effects on Maniapoto archaeological values are avoided.
- (c) Require a Maniapoto representative to be present at any known or suspected sites of significance, including urupā (burial sites) and identified wāhi tapu, during excavation or disturbance of the site and construction to act as a cultural advisor/monitor. Note: The cost of the representative shall be negotiated with and resourced by the resource user.
- (d) Require a Maniapoto representative to have access to monitor any part of earthworks.
- (e) Ensure Maniapoto determine tikanga and kawa protocols to be undertaken in relation in any excavation or disturbance



- (f) Maniapoto have input into all archaeological monitoring and investigation results and provide joint comment and advice is part of the results and/or report.

10.3.4 Objective: Discovery of taonga and/or archaeological sites

To ensure procedures are in place to manage the discovery and accidental discovery of taonga and archaeological sites.

10.3.4.1 Policy

Appropriate guidelines are in place to undertake archaeological surveys and excavations (information and permission).

Action

- (a) Seek the guidance and direction of kaumātua for information or permission for archaeological surveys or excavations.
- (b) Cease all site activity immediately any archaeological remains or artefacts are unearthed and notify Maniapoto within one working day of discovery.
- (c) Contact NZ Police, the Coroner and the Historic Places Trust (as appropriate) as soon as archaeological remains of potential human origin are unearthed.
- (d) Prevent work from commencing in the affected area until all necessary statutory authorisations or consents have been obtained.

10.3.4.2 Policy

A clear protocol is followed in the event of discovering taonga.

Action

- (a) Step through the following protocol whenever taonga are discovered:
 - (i) Secure the area of the site containing the taonga in a way that protects the taonga as far as possible from further damage.
 - (ii) Notify a Maniapoto kaumātua immediately before the taonga is moved. The kaumātua will undertake appropriate actions.
 - (iii) Resume work when advised by the kaumātua.
 - (iv) If approved by the kaumātua, the archaeologist will record, measure and photograph the taonga prior to the kaumātua securing the taonga.
 - (v) The Kaumātua will determine the appropriate action for the taonga once it has been recorded. This may include reburying the taonga in an

appropriate location or storing it in an appropriate location.

- (vi) If the taonga requires conservation treatment (stabilisation), this can be carried out in discussion with the archaeologist, kaumātua and Maniapoto.
- (vii) For the avoidance of doubt and subject to any laws of New Zealand, any taonga found shall be the property of Maniapoto who shall hold and use those taonga (including the return of them to marae) as they, in their sole discretion, see fit.

10.3.4.3 Policy

The appropriate protocol is followed after the accidental discovery of archaeological sites.

Action

- (a) Implement the following protocol whenever archaeological matter is accidentally discovered, including human remains:
 - (i) Cease all work that has potential to disturb the archaeological matter.
 - (ii) The unearthed archaeological material will remain in-situ (in place), and the relevant person (e.g., site construction supervisor, consultant, owner, or other person named as the 'relevant person') will be advised.
 - (iii) The area will be secured to ensure the archaeological matter remains undisturbed.
 - (iv) The relevant person will ensure that the matter is reported to the Regional Archaeologist at the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, Maniapoto, and to any required statutory agencies if this has not already occurred.
 - (v) A qualified archaeologist is to ensure all archaeological matter is dealt with appropriately.
 - (vi) Maniapoto are to be contacted for any material of Māori origin, in order that appropriate cultural processes are implemented to remedy or mitigate any damage to the site.
 - (vii) Any and all visits to the site must be cleared by the relevant person. It is advisable that a list of authorised personnel to visit the site is maintained. Under law it is a requirement for the site operator to undertake the overall safe management of the site, including the health and safety of all persons visiting the site. To meet this requirement and also to protect the integrity of the accidental discovery, Maniapoto consider it important that all visitors to

the project site are recorded, cleared and inducted into the site.

- (viii) The relevant person will ensure that the necessary people shall be available to meet and guide representatives of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, Maniapoto, and any other party with statutory responsibilities, to the site.
- (ix) Works in the site area shall not recommence until authorised by the relevant person who will consult with the New Zealand Historic Places Trust staff, Maniapoto, the NZ Police, and any other authority with statutory responsibility, to ensure that all statutory and cultural requirements have been met.
- (x) All parties will work towards operations recommencing in the shortest possible timeframes while ensuring that any archaeological sites discovered are protected until a decision regarding their appropriate management is made, and as much information as possible is gained. Appropriate management could include recording or removal of archaeological material and needs to occur in a manner consistent with Maniapoto tikanga and kawa.

10.3.5 Objective: Use of development contribution

To ensure development contributions are used, where appropriate, to protect for Maniapoto cultural heritage areas for cultural purposes

10.3.5.1 Policy

Appropriate policies are in place to protect Maniapoto cultural heritage for cultural purposes.

Action

- (a) Ensure Maniapoto have appropriate opportunities to be involved in the review, development and implementation of the development contribution policy to protect and enhance cultural heritage.
- (b) Identify and apply development contributions to protect, maintain, restore, and/or mitigate effects of an activity or resource use on sites of significance, wāhi tapu and cultural heritage in the rohe.

10.3.6 Objective: Rates relief for cultural heritage areas

To provide rates relief to support protection measures for cultural heritage areas

10.3.6.1 Policy

Appropriate criteria for rates relief for cultural heritage areas are identified and implemented.

Action

- (a) Ensure Maniapoto have appropriate opportunities to be involved in the review, development and implementation of rates remission policy.
- (b) Protect and identify cultural heritage areas and apply rates relief if applicable and possible.

10.3.7 Objective: Protection of sensitive information

To ensure Maniapoto sensitive information is appropriately protected.

10.3.7.1 Policy

Information sensitive to Maniapoto is appropriately protected.

Action

- (a) Ensure Maniapoto have appropriate opportunities to be involved in the review, development and implementation of information sharing protocols to ensure sensitive information is accessible and protected by Maniapoto.
- (b) Ensure district and regional plans and policies provide appropriate protection of information sensitive to Maniapoto.
- (c) Ensure district and regional plans and policies provide triggers for resource users to seek engagement and consultation with Maniapoto for sensitive information on cultural heritage matters.



APPENDIX 3: RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF CONSENT AND PROTOCOLS FOR THE ACCIDENTAL DISCOVERY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, TAONGA AND KOIWI TANGATA

Procedures if Archaeological Sites are Exposed

If remains are exposed that are potentially archaeological features or deposits (staff and contractors having been briefed and shown a visual identification guide on archaeological site types and features), the following procedure should be adopted:

1. Any earthworks / works must cease in the immediate vicinity (within 10m) while an Archaeologist is called in to establish whether the remains are part of an archaeological site as defined under the HNZPTA.
2. If the Archaeologist confirms that it is an archaeological site, the area of the site will be defined by the Archaeologist and excluded from earthworks / works.
3. Heritage NZ and the Council should be notified that an archaeological site has been exposed. An archaeological Authority from Heritage NZ must be obtained before any further work can proceed which affects the archaeological site (Note that this is a legal requirement).
4. If the archaeological site relates to Maori occupation the appropriate Iwi representatives will be informed by the Archaeologist and / or Graymont representatives.
5. If human bone (koiwi tangata) or taonga (Maori artefacts) are unearthed the protocols set out below will be followed.

Protocols Relating to Koiwi Tangata (Human Remains)

If bone material is identified that could potentially be human, the following protocol will be adopted:

1. Earthworks / works should cease in the immediate vicinity while an Archaeologist is called to establish whether the bone is human.
2. If it is not clear whether the bone is human, work shall cease in the immediate vicinity until the University's reference collection and/or a specialist can be consulted, and a definite identification made.
3. If bone is confirmed as human (koiwi tangata), the Archaeologist will immediately contact Iwi representatives (if not present), Heritage NZ and the NZ Police.
4. The site will be secured in a way that protects the koiwi as far as possible from further damage.
5. Consultation will be undertaken with all Iwi representatives, the Heritage NZ Regional Archaeologist and Graymont representatives to determine and advise the most appropriate course of action. No further action will be taken until responses have been received from all parties, and the koiwi will not be removed until advised by Heritage NZ.
6. The Iwi representatives will advise on appropriate tikanga and be given the opportunity to conduct any cultural ceremonies that are appropriate.
7. If the Iwi representatives are in agreement and so request, the bones may be further analysed by a skilled bio-anthropological specialist prior to reburial, in line with the *Heritage NZ Guidelines Koiwi Tangata Human Remains* (2014).
8. Activity in that place can recommence as soon the bones have been reinterred or removed and authorisation has been obtained from Heritage NZ.

Protocols Relating to Taonga (Maori Artefacts)

Māori artefacts such as carvings, stone adzes, and greenstone objects are considered to be taonga (treasures). These are taonga tūturu within the meaning of the Protected Objects Act 1975. Taonga may be found in

isolated contexts but are generally found within archaeological sites. If taonga are found the following protocols will be adopted:

1. Earthworks / works should cease in the immediate vicinity while an Archaeologist or Iwi representative is called to establish whether the item is a taonga (Maori artefact).
2. The area containing the taonga will be secured in a way that protects the taonga as far as possible from further damage.
3. The Archaeologist will inform Heritage NZ and the Iwi representatives so that the appropriate actions (from cultural and archaeological perspectives) can be determined.
4. These actions will be carried out within the stand down period specified below, and work may resume at the end of this period or when advised by Heritage NZ or the Archaeologist.
5. The Archaeologist will notify the Ministry for Culture and Heritage of the find within 28 days as required under the Protected Objects Act 1975. This can be done through the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

The Ministry for Culture and Heritage, in consultation with the tangata whenua, will decide on custodianship of the taonga (which may be a museum or the iwi whose claim to the artefact has been confirmed by the Maori Land Court). If the taonga requires conservation treatment (stabilisation), this can be carried out by the Department of Anthropology, University of Auckland (09-373-7999) and would be paid for by the Ministry. It would then be returned to the custodian or museum.